

Amendments to the Claims:

Please amend the claims to read as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for inhibiting or reducing beta-amyloid protein fibril formation, deposition or accumulation, the method comprising administering to a cell-free system, or an *in vitro* site, containing beta-amyloid protein an effective amount of laminin, or a fragment of a laminin protein.

2-3. (Cancelled)

4. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the laminin or fragment thereof is synthesized.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the beta-amyloid protein fibril formation, deposition or accumulation is associated with Alzheimer's disease or Down's syndrome.

6-10. (Cancelled)

11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the laminin fragment comprises a globular domain repeat within the laminin A chain.

12. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 11 wherein the globular domain repeat comprises the peptide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 3 or a fragment thereof.

13-14. (Cancelled)

15. (Currently Amended) A method for inhibiting or reducing beta-amyloid protein fibril formation, deposition or accumulation, the method comprising administering to a cell-free system, or an *in vitro* site, containing beta-amyloid protein an effective amount of a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of human laminin, mouse laminin, SEQ ID NO: 1, SEQ ID NO: 2, SEQ ID NO: 3, SEQ ID NO 4:, SEQ ID NO: 5, SEQ ID NO:6, SEQ ID NO: 7, SEQ ID NO: 8, SEQ ID NO: 9, SEQ ID NO:10, SEQ ID NO: 11, and fragments thereof.

16 - 18. (Cancelled)

19. (Currently Amended) A method for inhibiting or reducing beta-amyloid protein fibril formation, deposition or accumulation, the method comprising: administering an effective amount of a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of human laminin, mouse laminin, SEQ ID NO: 1, SEQ ID NO: 2, SEQ ID NO: 3, SEQ ID NO 4:, SEQ ID NO: 5, SEQ ID NO:6, SEQ ID NO: 7, SEQ ID NO: 8, SEQ ID NO: 9, SEQ ID NO:10, SEQ ID NO: 11, and fragments thereof into any non *in vivo* site containing beta-amyloid protein.

20. (Previously Added) The method of claim 15, wherein the polypeptide selected is taken from the 4th globular domain repeat of human A chain laminin.

21. (Previously Added) The method of claim 19, wherein the polypeptide selected is taken from the 4th globular domain repeat of human A chain laminin.

22. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 15 wherein the beta-amyloid protein fibril formation, deposition or accumulation is associated with Alzheimer's disease or Down's syndrome.

23 - 26. Cancelled.

27. (Previously Added) The method of claim 19 wherein the site containing the beta-amyloid protein is an *in vitro* site.